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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3933rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 29 September 1998 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls the statement of its President of 19 June 1997 (S/PRST/1997/34) concerning protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations.

"The Security Council welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on Protection for Humanitarian Assistance to Refugees and Others in Conflict Situations (S/1998/883) and notes the recommendations contained therein.

"The Security Council notes that several of the recommendations contained in the report coincide with recommendations made in the report 'The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa' (S/1998/318).

"The Security Council reaffirms the importance of pursuing a coordinated and comprehensive approach, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and principles and provisions of international law, in improving protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations.

"The Security Council condemns the attacks or use of force in conflict situations against refugees and other civilians, in violation of the relevant rules of international law, including those of international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council likewise condemns all attacks or use of force against United Nations and other personnel associated with United Nations operations as well as personnel of humanitarian organizations, in violation of international law, including international humanitarian law. In this context, the Council recalls the statement by its President of 12 March 1997 (S/PRST/1997/13) as well as other relevant statements and decisions. It also recalls the Convention on the Safety of United Nations

and Associated Personnel adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1994.

"The Security Council affirms its intention to review thoroughly and promptly the recommendations of the Secretary-General with a view to taking steps consistent with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations and, in this context, notes the views expressed in the debate on the matter at its 3932nd meeting on 29 September 1998."